Approved for Release: 2019/04/17 C03023641 ROUTING AND/OR INITIALS - SEEN BY -HESSAGE FORM TOTAL COPIES: 2 ORIG: 3.5(c)3 9 UNITE DD/OCI 4 7424 10 EXT: 5 8 March 1968 FILE RID BRANCH RETURN TO. DESTROY INDEX CABLE SECRETARIAT DISSEMINATION FILE IN CS FILE NO. NO INDEX IRS, KRIOPS, DDI RID COPY CONF 00 CAVAZ (elite) FEP3.5(c) Page 196 CITE CIA PRIORITY STATE, DIA, SACSA, DIRNSA THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO CAS SAIGON THIS IS A JOINT CAS STATE DEFENSE NSA MESSAGE FOR DELIVERY 3.5(c) AT OOB 9 MARCH TO AMBASSADOR, COMUSMACV AND (Sig Center copy from attached) UNQUOTE END OF MESSAGE

R. J. SMITH, DDI

SECRET

GROUP 1
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AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

COPY NO

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#### SECRET

- ADVISORY BOARD HAS REQUESTED DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TO UNDERTAKE AN APPRAISAL OF INTELLIGENCE WARNING PRIOR TO THE TET OFFENSIVE TASK TO BE COMPLETED BY 10 APRIL, WITH AN INTERIM REPORT ON 1 APRIL. THE DCI HAS CONVENED A WORKING GROUP OF USIB, PLUS REPRESENTATION FROM THE JOINT STAFF, TO WARR THIS APPRAISAL AND PREPARE A REPORT. MUCH OF THE BASIC WORK, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE TO BE DONE IN BY THE FIELD.
- 2. PFIAB HAS ASKED THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC OUESTIONS:
- a. WHAT INVORMATION REACHED J-2, MACV, IN THE PERIOD JANUARY 15-30 INDICATING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES? WHAT CAN BE SAID AS TO THE ORIGIN, THE QUANTITY, THE ACCURACY AND THE TIMELINESS OF THIS INFORMATION?
- b. IN HOW MANY CASES OF ATTACKS ON THE CITIES AND TOWNS DID THE RESPONSIBLE FIELD COMMANDERS RECEIVE WARNING THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO AVOID BEING

SURPRISED? PLEASE SHOW ON A MAP WHERE THESE ATTACKS OCCURRED WHICH WERE THUS FRUSTRATED.

- C. TO WHAT EXTENT DID THE VIETNAMESE

  CIVIL POPULATION GIVE INFORMATION TO THE

  AUTHORITIES BEFORE AND DURING THE ATTACKS? (IT

  HAS BEEN GAID ON TELEVISION THAT THERE WAS NOT A

  SINGLE REPORT FROM CIVILIAN SOURCES ALERTING GVN/

  US FORCES TO THE IMPENDING ATTACKS.) (WORKING GROUP

  ADDS: WHAT INFORMATION HAD VN INTELLIGENCE AND

  SECURITY ACQUIRED WHICH WARNED OF THE IMPENDING

  ATTACKS?)
- d. TO WHAT EXTENT WAS THERE A FREE AND
  RAPID EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN GVH AND US
  AGENCIES? (WORKING GROUP ADDS: AMONG THE SEVERAL
  US AGENCIES, AND AMONG THE SVN AGENCIES THEMSELVES?)
- O. HAVE THE ENEMY UNITS WHICH ENGAGED IN THE ATTACKS NOW BEEN IDENTIFIED? IF SO, WHAT CONCLUSIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM THESE IDENTIFICATIONS? (THE BOARD RECOGNIZES THAT THE QUESTION IS MORE PROPERLY PART OF QUESTION a).
- 1. WHAT SUBSTANTIVE EVALUATED INFORMATION BEARING ON THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES REACHED THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 15-30?

-JEWET

- (1) GENERAL VESTMORELAND, (2) JCS, (3) SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE, (4) DCI, (5) THE PRESIDENT. (WORKING GROUP ADDS: AMBASSADOR BUNKER)
- g. INSOFAR AS IT CAN BE RECONSTRUCTED,
  WHAT PICTURE DID THESE OFFICIALS HAVE OF THE
  SITUATION BASED UPON INTELLIGENCE RECEIVED JUST
  PRIOR TO THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES?
- IMPORMATION REQUIRED CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED IN VIETNAM.
  WE RECOGNITE THAT ALL AGENCIES IN SAIGON ARE HEAVILY
  COMMITTED TO CURRENT AND FUTURE OPERATIONS. IN
  ORDER TO REDUCE TO THE MINIMUM THE IMPACT ON YOUR
  DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS, WE PROPOSE TO SEND A SMALL
  TEAM TO ASSIST IN COLLECTING AND REVIEWING RELEVANT
  INFORMATION. SUBJECT TO MISSION SUGGESTIONS,
  PROPOSE ABOUT THREE DAYS OF SAIGON CONSULTATIONS
  AND EXAMINATION OF MATERIALS AVAILABLE AND TWO OR
  THREE DAYS AT SELECTED FIELD LOCATIONS WITH A ONE-DAY
  WRAP-UP IN SAIGON.

## A. MACV.

1. ASSEMBLE MATERIAL IN RESPONSE TO BOARD'S QUESTIONS A THROUGH E, FOR EXAMINATION AND POSSIBLE RETURN TO WASHINGTON.



#### CYCRET-

2.	PROVIDE MACY'S EVALUATION OF THIS
	MATERIAL, ESPECIALLY ON QUESTIONS
	C AND D.

- PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON MACY'S

  PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING AND

  EVALUATION OF INDICATIONS INTELLIGENCE.
- 4. PREPARE A RESPONSE TO QUESTION F (1).
- 5. ARRANGE A FIELD ITINERARY TO INCLUDE VIGITS TO SELECTED HEADQUARTERS AT CORPS/FIELD FORCE LEVEL, INCLUDING

3.5(c)3.5(c)В. ASSEMBLE MATERIAL COLLECTED THROUGH 1. CHANNELS DURING PERIOD 15-20 3.5(c)JANUARY WHICH CONTAINED INDICATIONS OF THE TET OFFERSIVE, AND MATERIAL IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS  $\underline{\mathbf{C}}$  AND  $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ . PROVIDE BRIEFINGS ON THIS MATERIAL, EVALUATION OF IT. 3.5(c)AND ON ESPECIALLY ON QUESTIONS  $\underline{\mathbf{C}}$  AND  $\underline{\mathbf{D}}$ . PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON PROCEDURES 3.5(c)3. FOR PROCESSING AND EVALUATION OF INDICATIONS INTRILIGENCE.

SECULT

- SUPPORT.
- C. EMBASSY SAIGON

PROVIDE BRIEFINGS ON ITS STATE OF WARNING OF THE TET OFFENSIVE AND ON ITS RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS  $\underline{C}$  AND  $\underline{D}$ .

p. | c)

3.5(c)

- 1. PROVIDE ANY WARNING INFORMATION

  IT RECEIVED DURING 15-30 JANUARY.
- 2. PROVIDE BRIEFING ON THIS MATERIAL.
- PROVIDE BRIEFING ON ITS PROCEDURES
  FOR PROCESSING AND EVALUATION OF
  INDICATIONS INTELLIGENCE.
- ON THE 15-00 JANUARY PERIOD, BUT SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION RECEIVED PRIOR TO 15 JANUARY SHOULD BE INCLUDED.
  - 6. TEAM COMPOSITION TO FOLLOW SEPARATE MESSAGE.

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	1. PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN INTELL	LIGENCE ADVIS	SORY BOARD	has request	ED	
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- 2. PFIAB HAS ASKED THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:
- A. WHAT INFORMATION REACHED J-2, MACV, IN THE PERIOD JANUARY
  15-30 INDICATING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES? WHAT CAN
  BE SAID AS TO THE ORIGIN, THE QUANTITY, THE ACCURACY AND THE TIMELINESS
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- IN HOW MANY CASES OF ATTACKS ON THE CITIES AND TOWNS DID THE RESPONSIBLE FIELD COMMANDERS RECEIVE WARNING THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO AVOID BEING SURPRISED? PLEASE SHOW ON A MAP WHERE THESE ATTACKS OCCURRED WHICH WERE THUS FRUSTRATED.
- c. TO WHAT EXTENT DID THE VIETNAMESE CIVIL POPULATION GIVE INFORMATION TO THE AUTHORITIES BEFORE AND DURING THE ATTACKS? HAS BEEN SAID ON TELEVISION THAT THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE REPORT FROM CIVILIAN SOURCES ALERTING GVN/US FORCES TO THE IMPENDING ATTACKS.) (WORKING GROUP ADDS: WHAT INFORMATION HAD VN INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY ACQUIRED WHICH WARNED OF THE IMPENDING ATTACKS?)
- TO WHAT EXTENT WAS THERE A KIKK FREE AND RAPID EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN GVN AND US AGENCIES? (WORKING GROUP ADDS: AMONG THE SEVERAL US AGENCIES, AND AMONG THE SVN AGENCIES THEMSELVES?)
- e. HAVE THE ENEMY UNITS WHICH ENGAGED IN THE ATTACKS NOW BEEN IDENTIFIED? IF SO, WHAT CONCLUSIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM THESE IDENTIFICATIONS? (THE BOARD RECOGNIZES THAT THE QUESTION IS MORE PROPERLY PARTOF QUESTION A).

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- f. WHAT SUBSTANTIVE EVALUATED INFORMATION BEARING ON THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES REACHED THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 15-30? (1) GENERAL WESTMORELAND, (2) JCS, (3) SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE, (4) DCI, (5) THE PRESIDENT. (WORKING GROUP ADDS: AMBASSADOR BUNKER)
- g. INSOFAR AS IT CAN BE RECONSTRUCTED, WHAT PICTURE DID THESE OFFICIALS HAVE OF THE SITUATION BASED UPON INTELLIGENCE RECEIVED JUST PRIOR TO THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES?
- 3. YOU WILL RECOGNIZE THAT THE BULK OF THE INFORMATION REQUIRED CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED IN VIETNAM. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ALL AGENCIES IN SAIGON ARE HEAVILY COMMITTED TO CURRENT AND FUTURE OPERATIONS. IN ORDER TO REDUCE TO THE MINIMUM THE IMPACT ON YOUR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS, WE PROPOSE TO SEND A SMALL TEAM TO ASSIST IN COLLECTING AND REVIEWING KEY RELEVANT INFORMATION. SUBJECT TO MISSION SUGGESTIONS, PROPOSE ABOUT THREE DAYS OF SAIGON CONSULTATIONS AND EXAMINATION OF MATERIALS AVAILABLE AND TWO OR THREE DAYS AT SELECTED FIELD LOCATIONS WITH A ONE-DAY WRAP-UP IN SAIGON. (cont'd)

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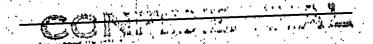
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COMMANDERS RECEIVE WARNING THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO AVOID BEING SURPRISED? PLHASE SHOW ON A MAP WHERE THESE ATTACKS OCCURRED WHICH WERE THUS FRUSTRATED.

...... TO WHAT EXTENT DID THE VIETNAMESE CIVIL POPULATION GIVE THEORMATION TO THE AUTHORITIES BEFORE AND DURING THE ATTACKS? HAS BEEN SAID ON TELEVISION THAT THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE REPORT FROM CIVILIAN SOURCES ALERTING GVN/ us ronces to the impending attacks.) what inform and security agancies acer WHAT EXTENT WAS THERE A FREE AND

AGENOTESE among the period US agencies, and omeng . O. HAVE THE ENEMY UNITS WHICH ENGAGED IN THE ATTACKS NOW BEEN IDENTIFIED? IN SO, WHAT CONCLUSIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM THESE IDENTIFICA-TIONS? (THE DOARD RECOGNIZES THAT THE QUESTION IS MORE PROPERLY PART OF QUESTION a).

RAPID EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN GVN AND US

WHAT SUBSTANTIVE EVALUATED INFORMATION BEARING ON THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES REACHED THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 15-30? (1) GENERAL WESTMORELAND, (2) JCS, (3) SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEPENSE, (4) DOI, (5) THE PRESIDENT.

# DRAFT

JOINT STATE-DEFENSE - CIA MESSAGE

TO: SAIGON

Into CINCPAC Honolulu

1. PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY BOARD HAS REQUESTED DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE TO UNDERTAKE AN APPRAISAL OF INTELLIGENCE WARNING PRIOR TO THE TET OFFENSIVE. TASK TO BE COMPLETED BY 10 APRIL, WITH AN INTERIM REPORT ON 1 APRIL. THE DCI HAS CONVENED A WORKING GROUP OF USIB, PLUS REPRESENTATION FROM THE JOINT STAFF, TO NAKE THIS APPRAISAL AND PREPARE A REPORT. MUCH OF THE BASIC WORK, HOWEVER, WILL HAVE TO BE DONE IN AND BY THE FIELD.

- 2. PFIAB HAS ASKED THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:
- a. WHAT INFORMATION REACHED 3-2, MACV, IN THE PERIOD JANUARY 15-30 INDICATING THE POSSIBILITY OF THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES? WHAT CAN BE SAID AS TO THE ORIGIN, THE QUANTITY, THE ACCURACY AND THE TIMELINESS OF THIS INFORMATION?
  - b. IN HOW MANY CASES OF ATTACKS ON THE CITIES AND TOWNS DID THE RESPONSIBLE FIELD

COMMANDERS RECEIVE WARNING THROUGH INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO AVOID BEING SURPRISED? PLEASE SHOW ON A MAP WHERE THESE ATTACKS OCCURRED WHICH WERE THUS PRUSTRATED.

CIVIL POPULATION GIVE INFORMATION TO THE AUTHORITIES BEFORE AND DURING THE ATTACKS? (IT HAS BEEN SAID ON TELEVISION THAT THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE REPORT FROM CIVILIAN SOURCES ALERTING GVN/US FORCES TO THE IMPENDING ATTACKS.)

RAPID EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN GVN AND US AGENCIES? A MISTAT

- O. HAVE THE ENEMY UNITS WHICH ENGAGED IN THE ATTACKS NOW BEEN IDENTIFIED? IF SO, WHAT CONCLUSIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN FROM THESE IDENTIFICATIONS? (THE BOARD RECOGNIZES THAT THE QUESTION IS MORE PROPERLY PART OF QUESTION A).
- F. WHAT SUBSTANTIVE EVALUATED INFORMATION BEARING ON THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES REACHED THE POLLOWING OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD OF JANUARY 15-30?

  (1) GENERAL WESTMORELAND, (2) JCS, (3) SECRETARIES OF STATE AND DEFENSE, (4) DCI, (5) THE PRESIDENT.

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- E. INSOFAR AS IT CAN BE RECONSTRUCTED,
  WHAT PICTURE DID THESE OFFICIALS HAVE OF THE
  SITUATION BASED UPON INTELLIGENCE RECEIVED JUST
  PRIOR TO THE ATTACK ON THE CITIES?
- INFORMATION REQUIRED CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED IN VIETNAM. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ALL AGENCIES IN SAIGON ARE HEAVILY COMMITTED TO CURRENT AND FUTURE OPERATIONS. IN ORDER TO REDUCE TO THE MINIMUM THE IMPACT ON YOUR DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONS, WE PROPOSE TO SEND A SMALL TEAM TO ASSIST IN COLLECTING AND REVIEWING RELEVANT INFORMATION. SUBJECT TO MISSION SUGGESTIONS, PROPOSE ABOUT THREE DAYS OF SAIGON CONSULTATIONS AND EXAMINATION OF MATERIALS AVAILABLE AND TWO OR THREE DAYS AT SELECTED FIELD LOCATIONS WITH A ONE-DAY WRAP-UP IN SAIGON.
- 4. IN PREPARATION FOR THE ARRIVAL OF THE TEAM, REQUEST MATERIALS BE ASSEMBLED, AS TIME PERMITS, AS FOLLOWS:

### A. MACV.

1. ASSEMBLE MATERIAL IN RESPONSE TO BOARD'S QUESTIONS A THROUGH E, FOR EXAMINATION AND POSSIBLE RETURN TO WASHINGTON.

.. 3 \_

SECONO.

#### -SECRET

- 2. PROVIDE MACV'S EVALUATION OF THIS MATERIAL, ESPECIALLY ON QUESTIONS C AND D.
- 3. PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON MACV'S

  PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING AND

  EVALUATION OF INDICATIONS INTELLIGENCE.
- 4. PREPARE A RESPONSE TO QUESTION F (1).
- 5. ARRANGE A FIELD ITINERARY TO INCLUDE VISITS TO SELECTED HEADQUARTERS AT CORPS/FIELD FORCE LEVEL, INCLUDING

3.5(c) 1. ASSEMBLE MATERIAL COLLECTED THROUGH 3.5(c) CHANNELS DURING PERIOD 15-30 JANUARY WHICH CONTAINED INDICATIONS OF THE TET OFFENSIVE, AND MATERIAL IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS C AND D. 2. PROVIDE BRIEFINGS ON THIS MATERIAL, 3.5(c) EVALUATION OF IT, AND ON ESPECIALLY ON QUESTIONS C AND D. 3. PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON | PROCEDURES 3.5(c)FOR PROCESSING AND EVALUATION OF INDICATIONS INTELLIGENCE.

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В.

#### SECULER

4. PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE AND CLERICAL - SUPPORT.

# C. EMBASSY SATGON "

PROVIDE BRIEFINGS ON ITS STATE OF WARNING OF THE TET OFFENSIVE AND ON.

ITS RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS C AND D.

 $\mathbf{r}$ 

- I. PROVIDE ANY WARNING INFORMATION

  IT RECEIVED DURING 15-30 JANUARY.
- 2. PROVIDE DRIEFING ON THIS MATERIAL.
- 3. PROVIDE BRIDGING ON ITS PROCEDURES FOR PROCESSING AND EVALUATION OF INDICATIONS INTELLIGENCE.
- 5. THE BOARD REQUESTS THAT STUDY BE CONCENTRATED
  ON THE 15-30 JANUARY DERIOD, BUT SIGNIFICANT INFORMATION
  RECEIVED PRIOR TO 15 JANUARY SHOULD BE INCLUDED.
  6. Team composition to follow
  Separate Msg.

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